

CALLING ATTENTION TO A MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

re : ADMISSION TO COLLEGES

Sri L. SRIKANTIAH (Nanjangud).—I call the attention of the Minister for Education regarding admission to Colleges.

Sri K. V. SHANKARA GOWDA (Minister for Education).—The Hon'ble member has raised the question of availability of seats in the P.U.C. and Degree Courses in the State. The total number of students who passed the S.S.L.C. Examination held in March/April 1967 is 35,410. We may assume that another 15,000 had passed in parts and have now become eligible for college courses. The total number of seats available in P.U.C. and XI Standard in the State is at present about 56,000. Apart from this, another 4,380 seats are available in Polytechnics. Thus, it would be seen that persons who had completed S.S.L.C. examination can prosecute their studies either in the University or in the Polytechnics without much difficulty. However, there is a rush for admission to certain courses. Those who have shown their ability by getting high marks in the subjects concerned can definitely be given seats in the subjects required by them. But persons who do not have adequate competence in science or professional subjects cannot be encouraged to continue studies in those subjects at the cost of the public exchequer. Members are aware that there has been a large demand for seats in science, engineering and medicine. These costly courses cannot be provided to all persons merely because they had obtained the minimum passing marks at S.S.L.C. or P.U.C. examinations. Such persons having shown that their ability is not adequate in science, technology, etc., will have to pursue courses of studies in humanities, if they are keen on pursuing studies at the university level. As I have already pointed out we have sufficient number of seats for all, but the subjects to be studied will have to be determined on the basis of the academic performance. Similarly, suitable migration of students will be required so that all the colleges have adequate number of students. It will not be possible to provide colleges at the doorstep of every applicant.

As regards the degree courses, the four universities in the State have in all 30,000 seats, of which roughly 14,000 are for science courses, 5,000 for professional courses and the remaining for humanities. The number of persons who passed the P.U.C. and have become eligible for higher studies is only about 15,000. Hence it can be seen we have adequate number of seats for all those who want to prosecute studies at the university. However, persons who had taken the science group at the P.U.C. Class and have fared badly cannot be encouraged to continue further studies in science at the degree level. Science education is a costly one and only those who have shown their aptitude by getting at least II class marks can be encouraged to continue at the degree level.

Members are aware that the percentage of passes at the pre-university level is about 40 per cent on the average. This means that most of those already admitted find the course difficult. Hence there is

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no case for admitting persons with lower marks to the university courses. It is expected that such persons will join vocational courses conducted by the Labour Department. In a rapidly industrialising country there is adequate scope for skilled workmen and middle-level supervisors. These persons need not have university degrees. It is Government's intention to encourage Vocational Education. Hence any increase of seats at the university level can only be for those who obtain adequate marks at the qualifying examinations to justify further education. There is abnormal pressure at the B.A./B.Sc. level this year due to the large number of students who appeared for the March 1967 examinations. The universities are making special arrangements to cope with this temporary increase this year. Government have ordered the opening of additional sections in Government Colleges in consultation with the University concerned. Bangalore University has permitted all colleges to increase the intake in all courses by 10 per cent.

MYSORE AGRICULTURAL PESTS AND DISEASES BILL, 1967

Introduction

Sri S. R. KANTHI (Minister for Law).—On behalf of the Chief Minister, Sir, I beg to introduce the Mysore Agricultural Pests and Diseases Bill, 1967.

Mr. SPEAKER.—The Agricultural Pests and Diseases Bill, 1967 is introduced.

CITY OF BANGALORE IMPROVEMENT (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1967

Introduction

Sri R. M. PATIL (Minister for Municipal Administration).—Sir, I beg to introduce the City of Bangalore Improvement (Amendment) Bill, 1967.

Mr. SPEAKER.—The City of Bangalore Improvement (Amendment) Bill is introduced.

ARSIKERE TOWN MUNICIPALITIES (EXTENSION OF LIMITS) BILL, 1967

Introduction

Sri R. M. PATIL.—Sir, I beg to introduce the Arsikere Town Municipality (Extension of Limits) Bill, 1967.